

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A pattern reading apparatus reads a pattern from a reflective object. The pattern reading apparatus includes a minute-area light source, an objective lens system, a spatial filter and an imaging lens. The objective lens system causes the illumination light beam from the light source to be incident on the object and converges the light beam reflected from the object. The imaging lens forms an image of the object using a component of light which has been reflected from the object and passed through the spatial filter.